Media Release

essential energy

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Powerful resources available for National Farm Safety Week

In conjunction with National Farm Safety Week, Essential Energy is encouraging farmers and their workers to access agribusiness safety resources to minimise the risk of electrical incidents on rural properties.

General Manager Safety, HR and Environment, David Nardi, said Essential Energy had a range of information available to assist those working on the land to operate safely near the electricity network.

"Essential Energy has free maps of the overhead electricity network that show the location of powerlines and poles on a property and can help to identify potential hazards," David said.

"Property owners can request these online by visiting essentialenergy.com.au/overhead."

Essential Energy also recommends marking powerlines to increase their visibility at ground level and help minimise the risk of farm machinery contacting the electricity network.

To enquire about having overhead powerline markers installed by Essential Energy at a reasonable cost, complete the online form at <u>essentialenergy.com.au/overhead</u>.

"It's important that farm machinery operators know the height of agricultural equipment and minimum safe approach distances from the electricity network to reduce the risk of contact with overhead powerlines," David said.

"Free electrical safety fact sheets are available via the Essential Energy website, plus there are a range of videos that can be viewed online and safety stickers that can be electronically ordered."

When digging or excavating, workers can register with the free *Dial before you dig* referral service at www.1100.com.au to identify the location of underground electrical assets.

Farmsafe Australia's National Farm Safety Week 2018 runs from 16-22 July under the theme "Innovative, Safe and Healthy".

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Essential Energy is the operator of one of Australia's largest electricity networks spanning 95 per cent of New South Wales' land mass. Owned by the New South Wales Government, Essential Energy also provides water and sewerage services to customers in far western New South Wales.